MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 AUGUST 1981

Israel

Suspended Aircraft Deliveries--Jerusalem radio reported that the United States is now suspending delivery to Israel of F-15 aircraft in addition to the previously halted shipment of F-16's. IDF radio cited an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman as expressing dissatisfaction with the decision, describing it as harmful, unjust and a breach of contract.

Jordan-Based Operation--Jerusalem radio, citing an IDF spokesman, reported that nine IDF personnel were injured when two vehicles they were traveling in detonated mines on the road running along the Jordan River north of Moshav Argaman. The IDF spokesman added that there is evidence that those responsible for mining the road entered Israel from Jordan. In a related report, Jerusalem television noted that this penetration from Jordanian territory was the first in more than a year. In a report on another event, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said a clash between Palestinian and Israeli forces in the Burj Na'jah area resulted in 20 Israeli dead and wounded. The radio said that after withdrawing from the battle area, the Palestinian force returned to its base in "occupied territories."

Egypt

Cairo radio, citing AL-AKHBAR, reported that the United States has agreed to supply Egypt with 40 new F-16's and 40 other aircraft, stating that they will be handed over to Egypt next March.

Lebanese Crisis

Official Comment on U.S. Plan--KUNA reported that a senior Lebanese Government official who preferred to remain anonymous said U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Robert Dillon told Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis on 10 August that the United States is seeking to enlarge the UN peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon to 16,000 men. According to KUNA, the Lebanese official expressed his approval of the U.S. plan and said that if the planned extension of the peacekeeping force's area of operations over all of the southern border enclave were successful, then the operational area could also be extended north to include the area now controlled by the PLO.

Al-Wazzan on Missile Defense--Beirut radio carried a recorded statement by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan following a meeting of several parliamentary committees on 11 August in which he said that the Lebanese Government is determined to accept any surface-to-air missile defense network, regardless of whether it comes from the East or the West, on the condition that it be operated by Lebanese personnel.

Military Situation--The Voice of Palestine reported on 11 August that Israeli aircraft overflew southern Lebanon as far as Beirut, drawing antiaircraft fire. Beirut radio reported that travel between the two sectors of the capital was disrupted due to sniper fire. The radio also noted that calm prevails in Tripoli.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League on PLO, Sinai Force--According to KUNA, the Arab League ambassador to the United Nations, Clovis Maqsud has rejected an apparent attempt by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat to "proliferate" representation of the Palestinian people and has emphasized that the PLO is their sole representative. KUNA also quoted the ambassador as saying that the Arab League would take certain diplomatic measures vis-a-vis those countries that have agreed to contribute troops to the multinational peacekeeping force in Sinai.

PLO on Saudi Peace Plan--According to GULF NEWS AGENCY, PLO Central Committee member Khalil al-Wazir has stated that the Palestine National Council views the Saudi peace plan for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East with special interest and will study it. It quoted him as saying that of particular interest is the denunciation of U.S. policy in support of Israel and the necessity of converting this denunciation into an "outcry of protest" against U.S. policy in general. Beirut radio reported that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine has rejected the Saudi plan.

Iran

Reply to Mitterrand Message--In response to a message from French President Francois Mitterrand congratulating him on his election to the presidency, President Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said he is amazed at the contradiction between Mitterrand's words and deeds, saying one must be a lie. In his message, broadcast textually by Tehran radio, Raja'i explained that Mitterrand's "wishes for success" come at a time when France has become a haven for individuals opposed to the Islamic revolution and when it is supplying Iraq with military assistance and Mirage aircraft. Asserting that Mitterrand has damaged longstanding cultural relations existing between Iran and France, Raja'i said Iran now regards France as the "second America" and another enemy of its Islamic revolution.

Danish Ship Seized--According to Tehran radio, the navy has stopped a Danish merchant ship in the Persian Gulf carrying war materiel and explosives that was heading for Iraq. The radio said the ship will be released once its cargo is unloaded. Helsinki radio reported that the ship was carrying dynamite destined for construction companies operating near Baghdad.

Internal Situation--Tehran radio reported that Lt Gen Yar Mohammad Zar'e, Iran's former delegate to the defunct CENTO pact, has been arrested. The radio also reported the arrest of 70 Mojahedin-e Khalq members in Tehran, 17 in Khorramabad and 4 in Rasht and mentioned that 150 leftists have been arrested in Kermanshah since 28 July. According to Shiraz radio, a group of Shiraz citizens, acting on Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's appeal for vigilance, arrested a Peykar member and handed him over to the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. Tehran radio reported that the prayer leader at a Kermanshah mosque was assassinated by leftists and that the Friday imam of Gorgan was attacked by armed assailants but escaped unhurt.

Afghanistan

Government-in-Exile--Kuwait's ARAB TIMES reported that six Afghan mojahedin organizations have announced plans to establish a government-in-exile next month in "a Middle Eastern state." The announcement states that deposed King of Afghanistan Zaher Shah has agreed to lead the new government.

Denial on Vakhan Salient--KUNA reported that Afghan Ambassador to the USSR Dr Habib Mangal has denied that his country ceded to the USSR the strategic Vakhan salient in northeastern Afghanistan during last month's visit to Moscow by President Babrak Karmal.

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MOSCOW ENVOY DENIES CESSION OF LAND TO USSR

LD111554 Kuwait KUNA in English 1503 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] Moscow, 11 Aug (KUNA)--Afghanistan did not surrender the strategic Vakhan corridor to the Soviet Union, the Afghani ambassador in Moscow, Dr Habib Mungal, said Tuesday.

The aim behind such false reports was to create doubts over our fraternal relations with the Soviet Union, the envoy added, in a statement to KUNA.

News recently circulated in Islamabad that high-ranking Pakistani officials were studying reports from various sources that President Babrak Karmal had surrendered the strategic site in north Afghanistan while he was in Moscow last month.

The diplomatic envoy accused the United States and Pakistan of circulating the news in a bid to obstruct current United Nations efforts seeking a practical formula for negotiations to improve relations with Pakistan.

"Friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union continued for years and not one day we were asked to grant any concessions, leave alone surrendering a territory, Mungal told KUNA.

We will never surrender any part of our soil, and news relating to Vakhan corridor were completely unfounded, the envoy said.

Meanwhile an Afghan diplomat here accused Pakistan of spreading such rumours in a bid to make the world believe that the Soviet Union had extended its borders up to Pakistan through the "Vakhan strategic finger" and justify the American sponsored stand that Pakistan was a "front line country".

REBELS REPORTEDLY ATTACK GHAZNI, BADAKHSHAN

GF111305 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 9 Aug 81 p 1

[Text] Dera Ismail Khan, 8 Aug (PPI)--The Afghan mojahedin have stepped up their resistance against the Soviet and Babrak Karmal forces. They are fighting with their traditional valor and courage against modern sophisticated armaments in Nangarhar, Faryab and (?Badakhshan).

Sources close to the prominent Afghan religious leader Pir Seyyed Al-e Moqtader-Gilani report that the mojahedin inflicted heavy casualties on attacking Soviet troops especially on the 'Id al-Fitr and the following day in Paktia, Nangarhar and Konarha. Some 150 government and Soviet troops were killed, of which 25-30 were Soviet advisers. A large quantity of tanks, mortars and armored vehicles were also destroyed and innumerable automatic rifles and submachineguns fell into mojahedin hands.

The mojahedin also attacked Badakhshan military hospital set up for Soviet troops, (Atiyan) armory and the Ghazni ammunition dump. All three were completely destroyed. The mojahedin seized two military jeeps loaded with high-quality rifles and other weapons. In this foray the mojahedin captured 50 Soviet advisers and some Afghan soldiers. After Peshawar, Dera Ismail Khan is the most populous center of Afghan mojahedin. A refugee who arrived here recently said that the Soviet Union has been using toxic substances such as napalm.

MAJOR OFFENSIVE NEAR KABUL SAID TO BE UNDERWAY

BK111636 Hong Kong AFP in English 1611 GMT 11 Aug 81

[By Alain Faudeux]

[Text] Islamabad, 11 Aug (AFP)--Mass Soviet and Afghan forces have launched an offensive in towns surrounding Kabul where the rebellion is well-entrenched, Western diplomats said here today.

They quoted their sources as saying that casualties were heavy [words indistinct] combatants and civilians. The Moslem rebels had several times been overwhelmed by weight of numbers and superior weaponry.

The diplomats named a number of towns, mostly north of Kabul, as targets, but the operation seems also moving toward other rebel-controlled sectors.

Encirclement of the Paghman region, 20 km (12 miles) north of Kabul, where Soviet and Afghan forces last month carried out the most devastating offensive since the beginning of the Soviet invasion, may be the ultimate aim of the operation.

After three days of fighting that caused hundreds of casualties among soldiers, villagers, and rebels, the mojahedin recaptured Paghman's hills and villages.

Attacks have been launched against the cities of Sarai Khwaja, 25 km (21 miles) north of Kabul, and Jabal os Saraj, 60 km (38 miles) north of the capital. Last Friday Kariz-e Mir was reportedly bombarded for 12 hours by MiG's, helicopters, and tanks, after which the Soviet forces withdrew without having met much real resistance. Casualties were said to be high, and according to Kabul sources, tanks systematically destroyed crops and orchards around the village to punish the local people for supporting the resistance.

In Lowgar Province, southeast of Kabul, similar destruction is said to have occurred around the village of Bini Hesar.

Also last Friday activity was observed at Kabul Airport, where the airfield was closed all day to civilian traffic to allow MiG's and helicopters to shuttle in and out to replenish their ammunition.

Western diplomats added that three Ilyushin transports loaded with Soviet infantry in combat gear took off that day from Kabul.

Kabul itself seems calm on the whole, but residents have reported recent exchanges of gunfire as well as rocketing and shellfire.

ZAHER SHAH TO SET UP GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE

GF111425 Kuwait ARAB TIMES Supplement in Urdu 11 Aug 81 p 15

[Text] Chitral, 10 Aug--Members of six mojahedin organizations have announced that, in order to make the Afghan Liberation Front more dynamic, a government-in-exile will be set up in September based in a Middle Eastern state. Afghanistan's ex-King Zaher Shah will head the government.

In the announcement it was stated that deposed King Zaher Shah has agreed to lead the government. It was also stated that Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat has agreed to allow the Afghan mojahedin to set up their headquarters in Cairo. Representatives of mojahedin organizations had visited Cairo last month to thank President as-Sadat for his military and financial assistance. The president assured the mojahedin of all possible help in the future.

FINANCE MINISTER SPEAKS ON ECONOMIC SITUATION

BK111636 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] India is negotiating with the International Monetary Fund for a loan of 5 billion SDR's, equivalent to 5000 crore rupees, to tide over the current adverse balance of payments position. This was disclosed by Union Finance Minister R. Venkataraman in an interview with K.K. Sud, All India Radio special correspondent, broadcast from Delhi a short while ago.

The trade deficit, he said, stood at 5200 crore rupees as against only 2450 crores in the preceding year. The minister said this balance of payment position has a reason essentially because of the hike in oil prices. The country's oil bill was only about 1700 crores in 1978-79; it has shot up to 5400 crores in 1980-81. This situation threatens to continue as long as India depends on imported oil for national requirements.

Discounting the apprehensions in some quarters that India will have to accept stiff conditions, Venkataraman said it is merely to create a scare where none exists. The government, he asserted, will certainly not do anything which will be derogatory to its self-respect. India, he poinced out, enjoys a very high reputation in the international market as a borrower. Talking about the inflation, Venkataraman claimed that there has been a significant deceleration in prices from 1979-80. The rate of inflation, he said, has come down to about 16 percent in 1980-81 as compared to over 20 percent in the preceding year. This has further come down to 9.8 percent on an annual basis as of July this year--the lowest ever in the last 2 years.

About the import of wheat and sugar, Venkataraman said, our philosophy is to provide the essential commodities at comparatively cheaper prices to the people. To achieve this objective a better stock in relation to the population and the needs of the country is essential. The import of wheat will augment our buffer stock and prevent hoarders and black-marketeers from taking advantage of any shortages as may appear in some places. Similarly, in the case of sugar and edible oil, the minister said it is our policy to ensure that sufficient stock is available to rush to areas where people may create artificial shortages. He expressed his happiness that it is already having its impact in the market and the sugar prices have come down.

In reply to another question, Venkataraman denied the charge of the government being soft with economic offenders. In fact, Venkataraman said the government is enforcing all these measures with greater vigor than the earlier government had done. Under the Prevention of Black-Marketing Act, over 340 people were detained till yesterday and under the Essential Commodities Act, over 3400 searches and seizures were carried out in 1980-81.

Talking about the ordinance for maintenance of essential services the minister said that this is only an enabling measure which gives the government power to take action in case of any paralysis of essential services. He, however, said that this ordinance will not be used unless a situation created by the labor in which the essential services are very much disturbed.

VISITING SOVIET OFFICIAL LAUDS USSR-INDIA TIES

BK120656 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Aug 81

[Text] Visiting Vice Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Bally Yazkuliyev has said the friendship between India and the Soviet Union is a great contributory factor for world peace.

He said the deep-rooted ties with India are very dear to the Soviet Union, and the people of both the countries have gained a lot following the signing of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation 10 years ago.

Welcoming the Soviet delegates, President of the Delhi Pradesh [State] Congress-I Committee H.K.L. Bhagat expressed the hope that the Indo-Soviet friendship will be further strengthened following Yazkuliyev's visit. Others who spoke on the occasion included Prof Nurul Hasan, chairman of the Friends of the Soviet Union Association, and the Soviet ambassador in India, Yuliy Vorontsov.

GANDHI COMMENTS ON NEUTRON BOMB, NUCLEAR ISSUES

BK120910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Aug 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has voiced her strong opposition to the manufacture of the neutron bomb or other weapons of mass destruction by the big powers. She was addressing a news conference in Nairobi comprising of representatives of the world media. She said we should have a world where there is no war and if there is one it should not be a nuclear one. Mrs Gandhi made this observation while answering a question by an Indian correspondent on the report that the Soviet Union also had exploded a neutron bomb.

The prime minister expressed grave concern about the excalating arms race and the piling up of weapons which were more destructive and harmful in every way. She made it clear that India is only interested in harnessing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes like agriculture, medicine and power generation and she said efforts in this regard in the last few years have been rewarding.

A Swedish correspondent asked Mrs Gandhi if India would phase out her nuclear power generation programs as his own country had done. Mrs Gandhi ruled out this possibility. She said she had her own personal views on the matter but she had to be guided by the national interests. Reports of the press conference are still coming in.

MITTERRAND CONGRATULATES RAJA'I ON ELECTION

LD111214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Telegram from French President Francois Mitterrand to President Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i; date of telegram not given]

[Text] Your Excellency, the president: On your election as the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I sincerely express my congratulations and wishes for your success in performing Your Excellency's sublime duties. I hope that relations between our two countries will expand, becoming comparable to a deep and sincere friendship between the two nations.

[Signed] Francois Mitterrand

Raja'i Reply

LD111224 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Reply telegram from President Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i to President Francois Mitterrand; date of telegram not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellency Francois Mitterrand, president of France: I received your congratulatory message on my election as president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. You wrote in your message: "I hope that relations between our two countries expand, becoming comparable to a deep and sincere friendship between the two nations."

Mr Mitterrand, you know that the Islamic Republic of Iran is Islamic, and that I have been elected to this position because the revolutionary nation of Iran has recognized me as a Muslim person; it is also necessary for you to know that a Muslim cannot tell lies and, naturally, whatever he says is what is in his heart.

I know the French nation as a great and freedom-seeking nation, and hereby express my heartfelt respect for this great nation. I hope that the French nation always remembers that its fathers staged a revolution for ideology and freedom; they opened the gates of the Bastille, punished the criminals for their doings and staged a revolution that is known as "great" in the history of the world.

In my opinion, the French nation, which is famous as an intelligent and cultured nation, is not happy in its heart, because its country is now a haven for criminals, murderers and terrorists. It will never forget this historic disgrace that its rulers have imposed on it. And you, Mr Mitterrand, have sent a congratulatory message and wishes for success to me at a time when the policy of your government has turned France into a safe and secure center and the focal point for individuals who oppose the Islamic revolution of Iran. I am amazed as to how much one's words and actions can differ and be contradictory.

In your message you wished me success, but at the same time, on the pretext of defending freedom, you give sanctuary to criminals like Bani-Sadr and Rajavi, whose hands are covered with the blood of dozens of my innocent compatriots, so that with the help of imperialism and international Zionism they can plot against the revolution of the Iranian nation.

You, Mr Mitterrand, know full well that our Islamic homeland has been subjected to open aggression by the puppet Iraqi regime, but you give Iraq military assistance and Mirage aircraft; at the same time, you wish me success. Therefore, of the two, one is surely a lie; the alert nations of Iran and France know full wellwhich is the lie.

Mr Mitterrand, from 200 years ago, when the two nations of Iran and France established cultural relations with each other, until the Islamic revolution, the Muslim nation of Iran has never had so many bitter thoughts about France. If you have sufficient knowledge of the history of your country's literature, you should know that many of your writers have spoken well of Iran and the Iranians, and have striven to strengthen the cultural relations between the two countries.

Now, by helping the enemies of the Islamic revolution of Iran, giving sanctuary to criminals who have fled from the wrath of their nations, you have damaged these ancient cultural relations, and have acted in such a way that the Iranian nation now regards France as the second America and another enemy of its Islamic revolution. Now the French nation should ask you why, by giving sanctuary to criminals and fugitives, you have aroused the anger of a nation that some time ago covered the French Embassy in Tehran completely with flowers, solely because of the presence of its leader in France.

Finally, the revolutionary nation of Iran that has tasted freedom and liberty and has experienced the departure and ousting of the criminal imperialism of America from the Islamic homeland, will defend its Islamic revolution at any price; our deprived society, by relying on God and following the teachings of Islam, will ultimately be victorious. At the same time, it will never forget which of the world governments antagonized their revolution and gave sanctuary to criminals and fugitive terrorists.

With wishes of success for the Islamic revolution of the Iranian nation and pride and honor for the French nation.

[Signed] Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

REYSHAHRI: BANI-SADR INVOLVED IN ABORTIVE COUP

LD112118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] In connection with the execution of the last few elements who were behind the Nowzheh coup plot and who were arrested 13 months ago following the discovery of this plot, as well as the plotters' reactions [as heard] and their relationships with Bani-Sadr, which is an indication of Bani-Sadr's character right from the start of his presidency, the Central News Unit correspondent spoke to Mr Reyshahri, the armed forces special tribunal's religious judge.

In this interview, Mr Reyshahri said:

[Begin recording] [Reyshahri] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Those who have been executed, both in connection with the Pars [guardians of monarchy] group, the monarchists and the coup plot, were all important and active members of those groups.

In connection with the coup, a number from the group's political branch were executed. These included Qaddem, father of engineer Qaddem, a Bakhtiar cabinet minister who is currently among the active members of Bakhtiar's headquarters working against the regime of the Islamic Republic. Qaddem himself was a member of the Iran Party which was once led by Shapur Bakhtiar and later by Abolfazl Qasemi. The latter is now in prison.

Another who was executed was Naser Rokni who was one of the most important members of the group behind the coup plot. He had the task of public relations and gave the court a massive amount of information concerning the coup plot.

Izadi, another who was executed, was deputy division commander and was among the coup leaders.

In connection with the monarchists, engineer Armin was the leader of this [Pars] organization; it was a promonarchy organization. They were planning to plant a bomb during Tehran Friday prayers but were arrested before they could succeed. But they had planted bombs in other places before. All of them were arrested and four or five of them were executed. An investigation concerning the others arrested is still continuing.

Now, you may ask why it took such long time to investigate--more than 1 year perhaps. People were asking why they had not been executed at the time. The reason for the delay was the issue of intelligence. Because their information concerning the coup plot was valuable, and since they had shown no belief in what they had embarked upon following their arrest, they gave the names of a lot of people. Nasir Rokni was able to give us the names of perhaps 100 persons. Also, Qaddem revealed a lot of information which made it essential to have them arrested and confront each other, and thus to complete their cases. Of course, we knew about Qaddem's activities before the discovery of the coup plot. He had been arrested long before, and it was only after the discovery of the coup plot that we realized he had been among the ringleaders. The charge against him when he was arrested was minor.

[Correspondent] Could you elaborate on Bani-Sadr's connection?

[Reyshahri] In a trip to Ahvaz Mr Bani-Sadr sent a number of his aides to disarm the prison guards and released about 51 persons who had been in prison on charges of participation in the coup. This event took place just after the start of the war. Following this we pursued the issue and some of those released were once again arrested and put on trial. According to Mr Rokni's confessions, recorded in his file, he was Mr Bani-Sadr's contact in connection with the abortive coup. Mr Rokni was puzzled by the fact that, at the time the question of the coup and the change of regime was discussed at the coup headquarters, it had been decided to eliminate Mr Bani-Sadr, but that gradually, as other meetings took place, this decision was reversed. At one time the suggestion was to imprison him. At the final stage, when it was decided to implement the coup, at the final meetings, it was decided to deploy the coup's best guards to safeguard Mr Bani-Sadr. This was contrary to the earlier decision that was made to the effect that Mr Bani-Sadr was to be assassinated by the men surrounding him who were also the coup elements. He said that all this had puzzled him.

But the issue became crystal clear when Mr Bani-Sadr left, accompanied by Rajavi. It solved the question of the coup plot and its connection with the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization and the connection of Mr Mo'ezzi, the shah's former pilot, who piloted the aircraft in which Bani-Sadr and Rajavi fled Iran. [end recording]

PROSECUTOR REITERATES WARNING ON TERRORISM

LD111825 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Statement issued by the Public Relations Office of the prosecutor general of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. It is a religious duty to expose a person who intends to kill a Muslim. You must do so before he commits the crime. If you do not, you share his crime. [quotation from] Imam Khomeyni.

The Muslim and revolutionary nation has repeatedly inquired about the methods of the revolution prosecutor's office and of the revolution courts in the dealing with agents who wage terror, subversion and explosion, and with those whose behavior and actions in practice have the same effect. It is hereby brought to the attention of our martyr-rearing and ever-present nation that the revolution prosecutor's office, as when previously confronted by counterrevolutionary minigroups and groups that wage war against God, continues to emphasize the contents of its statements of 11 July 1981.

It warns members and supporters of minigroups who have announced their armed rebellion against the Islamic Republic and those who cooperate with such groups that if they are found guilty of any of the five categories mentioned below they will be clearly regarded as corrupt on earth and rebels and will be dealt with according to the teachings of the glorious Koran:

1. All active members and supporters;

2. Those who, in connection with above-mentioned groups, directly or indirectly create disturbances and disorder by committing acts of terror and sabotage;

3. Those who assault or wage armed attack on premises, gatherings and people;

4. Those who hide arms and ammunition for the above-mentioned groups;

5. Those who place houses, money and other facilities at the disposal of the above-mentioned groups.

In conclusion, it is necessary to explain that, as the imam of the nation graciously said in his recent speech, the door of repentance is open to all. Those who give themselves up before being arrested, place their arms and information at the disposal of security officials and repent will erjoy the appropriate Islamic kind of leniency, taking into consideration the mitigating circumstances.

[Signed] The prosecutor general of the Islamic Republic of Iran

MATERIALS ON ARRESTS, INTERNAL SITUATION

17 'Hypocrites' Arrested

LD111231 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] According to PARS, 17 members and supporters of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] have been arrested in the past 2 days, thanks to the vigilance of the people and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Khorramabad and Borujerd. According to this report, these people were arrested on charges of taking part in throwing Molotov cocktails, causing explosions, setting fire to various places and engaging in street clashes. They have been handed over to the relevant authorities.

Since 28 July, 150 supporters and members of the hypocrites and Peykar organizations have been arrested in Kermanshah.

'Mercenary' Arrested in Shiraz

GF111602 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] Implementing the order of the imam of the nation, that guarding the Islamic revolution and recognizing elements connected to the arch-Satan and criminal are religious duties, a group of faithful Muslim Shiraz citizens has arrested one member of American minigroup Peykar and delivered him to the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

The mercenary was arrested while distributing and posting hypocrite communiques.

Announcing this, the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guards Corps thanks all brothers and sisters who cooperate with law enforcement agents in crushing mercenaries and those connected with the East and West while maintaining respect for Islamic guidance.

Arrests in Fasa

GF111548 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] I have just received this report: Those responsible for the fire in Fasa's Ershad bookshop and the book kiosk located at the city's Imam Khomeyni crossroads have been found. Their hideout was discovered with the aid of the Muslim and faithful people. They were arrested.

One of those detained refused to reveal his name during the early part of questioning but finally gave as his alias the name Naser Rad. Seizing an opportunity, he committed suicide with a cyanide pill concealed on himself. The second arrested individual, Reza Rahimi, is a resident of Esfahan. Following preparation of his file, he will be delivered to the Islamic Revolution Court.

The aid of aware people also resulted in the recognition and arrest of several others. Their arrests resulted in discovery of important matters that will be announced later for the information of the martyr-nurturing people.

Bystanders Shot

LD111736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] PARS, quoting Tehran's Revolution Guards Corps, reported that at 1900 last night an antipeople hypocrite group shot three bystanders who were wearing guards' trousers, thinking they were revolution guards. All three were injured and, unfortunately, a child was martyred in this incident. According to the report, of the three injured persons one is a student and the other two are laborers.

It is worth mentioning that it is not the first time that ordinary bystanders have been martyred by the hypocrite group.

4 'Hypocrites' Arrested in Rasht

LD111818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] According to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Gilan, four supporters of the hypocrite organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were arrested today by people and forces loyal to the Islamic revolution in the streets of Rasht.

The report says: At 1400 today an armed clash took place in Rasht's Imam Khomeyni Street between a hypocrite and the forces loyal to the revolution, as a result of which the hypocrite was injured and taken to a hospital. During this incident, one person loyal to the revolution was injured.

The report by the Gilan Islamic Revolution Guards Corps also says that two supporters of the hypocrite organization were identified by the people in a street in Rasht and arrested.

This morning another member of the hypocrite organization, who was carrying two grenades with extreme explosive power, was arrested in Rasht's Sa'adi Street and handed over to the revolution guards.

3 Arrested in Tehran

LD111756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, three hypocrite supporters were arrested before noon today. A number of firearms were seized.

These three, one boy and two girls, were riding in a stolen BMW, attracting the attention of the mobilization forces on Bahar Street, in Tehran. Following an inspection of the car, a G-3, a Uzi, a Colt and two grenades were discovered.

The Tehran corps' news headquarters, confirming the report, added that the three arrested had a role in the past terrors and destructions and it is believed they had possibly planned to assassinate someone or destroy something.

Ex-Delegate to CENTO Arrested

GF111829 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] Islamic revolution guards today arrested Lt Gen Yar Mohammad Zar'e, Iran's former delegate to the dissolved CENTO pact and one of the Pahlavi regime's aides. He had been sought for some time on the charge of cooperating with the hireling As-Sadat. CENTO used to consist of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, with Britain and the United States as observers. Its objective was to turn the region into an U.S base. In 1979, after the triumph of the Islamic revolution in Iran, the pact was dissolved along with other imperialist pacts.

Confrontation in Sari

LD120844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 12 Aug 81

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, following the identification of a communal house belonging to the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] in Sari, the brother guards were about to question the occupants when they were confronted with armed resistance by the hypocrites. After a 3-hour clash, one of the hypocrites was killed and another was injured. Two others, who did not have the strength to fight against the brother guards, sprayed innocent people with bullets while trying to escape, injuring two of our compatriots. But, eventually they were arrested by the Sari Islamic revolution guards brothers.

Quantities of weapons and ammunition were discovered in the house.

Prayer Leader Assassinated

LD120634 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Aug 81

[Text] According to PARS, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Aqa Baha'oddin 'Eraqi, prayer leader at the E'temadi Mosque in Kermanshah and a Majlis candidate in the second round of the city's elections, was assassinated by terrrorists last night, while accompanied by a number of people. Unfortunately, he and his guard were martyred and four others were injured.

According to this report, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Aqa Baha'oddin 'Eraqi was passing through Khayyam Avenue on foot with his father, Hajj Aqa Sheykh Mohammad Baqer 'Eraq Aqa Bozorg, the Friday imam of Kangavar, and his (?two young children), after the evening prayers. They were subjected to a dastardly attack by the agents of counterrevolutionary minigroups, and as a result of bullet wounds, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Eraqi was martyred and five others injured. The wounded were immediately taken to (?Ayatollah Taleqani) Hospital (?in that city). Unfortunately, one of his guards was martyred in the hospital, due to the severity of his wounds.

The incident is being investigated by the security forces.

308 Cholera Cases Reported

LD091204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Aug 81

[Excerpt] According to a Central News Unit report, the Health Ministry announced, on the basis of reports and statistics collected throughout the country, that up to 26 July [not indicated since when] 23,317 persons wh were suffering from vomiting and diarrhea have attended that ministry's treatment centers. Three hundred and eight of them have contracted El Tor [a strain of cholera usually giving rise to milder form of the disease] and only eight have been reported to have died.

SHIPPING OFFICIAL RESPONDS TO ITALIAN SEIZURE

AU120930 Rome ANSA in English 0810 GMT 12 Aug 81

[Text] Tehran, 12 Aug (ANSA)--The decision of Italian authorities Sunday to impound a freighter owned by the Iranian shipping company for Iran's nonpayment of a job completed in 1980 by an Italian firm was strongly responded to last evening by the vice president of the Iranian company.

The shipping company official was quoted as saying that "Italian magistrates are Mafia agents and there are no traces of judges or juries in Italian courts".

The incident which drew the vice president's wrath centers on the Iran Kalane, seized at the port of Ravenna on a writ issued by a Ferrara court. The plaintiff was the Ferrara-based Zanzi SRL, a farm engineering outfit, which claimed to have advanced 2.5 million dollars in credit for the construction of a model farm for the growing of strawberries in the area of Qazvin, west of Tehran.

The job was begun on a contract let by the regime of the late shah, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and completed last year for the new Islamic fundamentalist government. Zanzi filed a suit seeking the seizure of the Iranian vessel on the grounds that proceedings pushed forward by an Italian court would carry no weight in Iran.

The Iran Kalane is owned by the company which is believed to be directly controlled by the Tehran regime. The spokesman for the shipping company, Ahmad Hatami, conceded in the evening that the "foundation of the disinherited", the state agency which took over "Shams Pahlavi", the agency which let the contract, did not pay Zanzi in full.

The shipping company vice president quickly added, however, that this failure to pay the Italian company had nothing to do with impounding the freighter. He argued that the decision of Italian magistrates was "illegal" but, "knowing the real (mafioso) nature of Italian courts, a different decision could not have been expected".

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 599 ON RECENT BATTLES

LD111750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Communique 599 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The ever-steadfast combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, drawing on the fruitful and energizing source of Islam, are dealing decisive and crushing blows at the Saddamite warmongers and at every moment are intensifying their efforts toward demolishing the enemy forces. Islam's justice-seeking combatants, continuing their intrepid and manly offensives, inflicted major losses and casualties on the aggressors in the past 24 hours, a summary of which is hereby brought to the attention of the combatant, Muslim nation of Iran as follows:

At 0400 yesterday morning in the Darkhovin region, the enemy once again launched an attack which was immediately met with massive firepower a. the response of our combatant units and, after suffering losses, it was forced to retreat.

In the Abadan region, the heroic sons of Islam subjected the aggressors' positions to intense fire and, as a result, one enemy supply depot, one fuel depot, five tanks, one ammunition depot and a number of trenches were destroyed. In the same region, the combatants of the Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed several Iraqi weapon emplacements and killed a number of their servicemen.

As a result of sporadic fire from enemy light and heavy weapons, several housing units in Abadan were either destroyed or set ablaze and a number of our dear compatriots in that city were wounded.

In the area west of Dezful, thanks to artillery fire by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, one enemy tank, one cannon piece, two ammunition depots, one ammunition tent and one squad trench were set ablaze and destroyed. During other operations in the same region, 1 enemy personnel carrier and 1 106-mm rifle were damaged, 3 ammunition dumps were destroyed, and 17 of Saddam's troops were either killed or wounded.

In the Susangerd region, the mighty heroes of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened fire on the positions of Sadam's troops and destroyed one enemy tank and one ammunition depot and killed or wounded a number of Iraqi servicemen.

On the country's western fronts, exchange of fire continued between our forces and the enemy. The intensity of fire was greatest in the Meymak, Zil and Nakhlestan regions and on the Marivan, Sheykhan and Nowsud fronts. Thanks to our combatants' firepower superiority the enemy suffered losses and casualties.

Opposite the Ganj Veys heights, in Ilam, our gendarmerie fighters used mortars to destroy one enemy squad trench and one mortar emplacement and, thanks to the artillery and mortar fire of our forces in Shushmir Bala, in the Paveh region, losses and casualties were inflicted on Iraqi Army equipment and servicemen.

In the past 24 hours six raiding Iraqi aircraft appeared in the country's southern regions and another two in the Sar Dasht region but, thanks to ground-to-air fire, were forced to leave the airspace of the said regions.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

NVOI ASSAILS ZIAUL HAQ'S 'ANTI-IRANIAN PLOTS'

TA110910 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 10 Aug 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Anti-Iranian Plots of Ziaul Haq's Puppet Military Regime"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The so-called Islamic regime of Ziaul Haq in Pakistan has a special status in the series of conspiratorial and aggressive measures by U.S. imperialism against Iran. Following the expulsion of the sinister Aryamehri regime from our country, Ziaul Haq's puppet regime has actually undertaken the same role of the imperialists' middleman in the region and is actively participating in all aggressive measures by U.S. imperialism against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It is not accidental that U.S. imperialism, hand in hand with Beijing's hegemonistic leaders, is exerting its efforts to arm Pakistan as much as possible and to transform it into an imperialist base in the region.

Apart from the fact that along with the Zionist Israeli regime and the racist South African regime the Americans have decided to place nuclear weapons at the disposal of Ziaul Haq's regime, they have also decided to set up in this country, as in Saudi Arabia, monitoring devices and to supply it with the U.S. AWACS. Informed observers are devoting particular attention to the fact that the foundation of an unholy alliance between Washington, Beijing and Islamabad is being laid against the region's national and revolutionary regimes, and above all against the Islamic Republic of Iran and democratic Afghanistan. According to the Indian newspaper (?NATIONAL HERALD), the agreement reached between the aforementioned three countries stipulates regular flights in Pakistani-Iranian and Afghan-Indian airspace and also in Chinese-Afghan-Soviet airspace. According to experts, the AWACS the Americans are placing at the disposal of Ziaul Haq's regime--and whose every function will be in the hands of U.S. military experts--will allow the U.S. to monitor at a depth of more than 400 km all telephone and radio conversations and the deployment of military units and equipment.

The fact that by the installation of the AWACS in Pakistan the army of that country will more than ever be transformed into an appendix of the U.S. Army is a matter that concerns the people of Pakistan who certainly cannot tolerate this situation. However, the fact that the danger of all these treacherous measures by Ziaul Haq's debased regime are foremost of all aimed at our liberated country and expose to danger our homeland's security on the length of the Iranian-Pakistani border strip is a matter that concerns the Iranian nation and government and toward which one cannot be indifferent.

The Americans are currently preparing plots and aggression against our liberated homeland near our country's borders with Pakistan. Unfortunately, the necessary measures and reaction have not been taken yet in this connection by official authorities of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and without doubt it should be expected that they will be taken.

The fact that we should consider in connection with the anti-Iranian policy of the Pakistani regime is that it has been demonstrated once more that the issue of a regime having a Muslim or non-Muslim title--which some recognize as the sole basis for that regime being popular and anti-imperialist--is under no circumstance indicative of a regime's nature. The so-called Islamic Republic of Pakistan is a living example of this. We should draw a distinct line between our friends and foes, irrespective of their ideological and religious beliefs. Liberated Iran is exposed from every side to the threat and aggression of imperialism and reactionary regimes that are the puppets of the United States. In such circumstances our policy in the international arena should be distinct, realistic and revolutionary. One should desist from creating enemies, and should refrain from rapprochement with foes like the so-called Islamic regime of Ziaul Haq.

The Iranian nation recognizes the Ziaul Haq regime and similar regimes as the agents of U.S. imperialism, and expects officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran to adopt a (?consistent) and principled policy toward Ziaul Haq's treacherous attitude toward Iran, and to inform the people of the joint plots of the United States, Pakistan and China, and to mobilize public opinion for confronting any danger aimed by Pakistan at our country.